GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2132
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2006
VACANT POSTS IN MISSIONS
Bhargav Shri Girdhari Lal

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of second Secretary (Hindi and Cultur

(e) and Cultural Attache in various missions abroad, country-wise;

(b) whether all such posts have been duly filled up;

(c) if not, the number of posts lying vacant as on date alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) As part of its diplomatic activities, each Indian Mission abroad promotes Indian culture and cultural cooperation. An officer in each Mission is given the responsibility for this work, either exclusively or as part of his overall responsibilities. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) also has posts at various levels abroad in specific Indian Missions. These posts are in Moscow, Almaty, Tashkent, Port Louis, Cairo, London, Berlin, Guyana, Suriname, Port of Spain and Kabul. In addition, there are posts of Second Secretary (Hindi & Culture) in Indian Missions in Port Louis, Port of Spain and Suva, while there are posts of Attache (Hindi & Culture) in Kathmandu, London and Paramaribo.

(b) to (d) Of the above, all ICCR posts and posts of Attache (Hindi & Culture) are currently filled. However, the posts of Second Secretary (Hindi & Culture) are currently vacant as the incumbents have finished their tenure and their substitutes have not been appointed. The selection process is at an advanced stage and the posts will be filled as soon as the process is completed and the selected officers are able to join.